

Committee Notes – Joint Meeting

Security Committee- Hollywood Entertainment District, Sunset and Vine BID

February 14, 2013

Attendance: HED Committee Members Present: John Tronson, Chairperson; Charlie Colletta, Thaddeus Smith, Dan Chismire, Carol Massie, Derrick Malec. Not Present: Chad Lewis. SVBID Committee Members Present: Fred Rosenthal, Chairperson; Anthony Bell, Fabio Conti, Elizabeth McDonald, Katie Seymour. Not Present: None. Liaisons: Steve Seyler, Joe Salazar, Mike Harkins, and Bill Farrar, Andrews International; Andre Quintero, Neighborhood Prosecutor; Not Present: LAPD, LASD, and Council District 13. Staff: Kerry Morrison, and Joe Mariani Jr., Hollywood Property Owners Alliance. Guests: Alfonzo Cervantes, Brian Bejarano, Five Diamond Protection; David Sayed, Mohib Hamidi, IPS; Howard Ferguson, Hollywood Frontier; Joseph D'Amore, Hollywood Board of Directors.

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairs Fred Rosenthal and John Tronson at 10:10 a.m.
- II. Public Comment: No Public Comment.
- III. Meeting Notes: The Committee approved their meeting notes from the January 10, 2013 meeting.
- IV. Reports

- A. Report from Andrews International

- 1. Monthly Activity Report: Seyler gave a brief update to the committee on activities through January 2013. Seyler mentioned that the officers have continued homeless outreach efforts, and through the use of unarmed officers patrolling the district, Andrews has been able to contact more homeless individuals and connect with them. This year the BID patrol has made eight felony arrests, however Seyler informed the committee that these arrests were all developed from minor stops such as drinking in public. Seyler assured the committee that officers are still calling LAPD when calls go beyond their scope of work. Armed Officers also participated in the following training during the last period: Driving, Sexual Harassment, Live Fire, and Legal Update.

- 2. Unarmed BID Patrol: Seyler introduced the committee to two of the new unarmed BID officers. The officers currently patrol only the Hollywood Entertainment District six days a week (Wednesday Off) from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. The officers shared their experience thus far with the group, and said that being out on foot everyday has really generated a positive reaction with business owners in the area.

- B. Report from LAPD: LAPD was not present at the meeting.

- C. Report from LA Sheriff's Department: LASD was not present at the meeting.

- D. Report from Neighborhood Prosecutor: Andre Quintero introduced himself as the new neighborhood prosecutor for Hollywood. He said he is excited to be in the area and is looking forward to working with both the BID and its members on combating criminal issues in the neighborhood.

- V. New Business

- A. Nighttime Activity in the BID

- 1. Las Palmas Private Security Experiment Update: Kerry Morrison discussed with the board her observations during a late night excursion in the BID last month. Morrison said the Las Palmas

private security presence has made a visible difference in the climate of the intersection during the late night hours. Morrison introduced to the committee David Sayed and Moe, representatives from the two security companies who are out at night. David gave an update as to how their services are deployed. Currently the companies are out Tuesday, Friday and Saturday nights from 10 p.m. – 4 a.m. There are eight unarmed officers and two patrol cars which report incidents they observe to the LAPD. David said that they are working with the LAPD to meet with other owners in the area to try and expand the program. John Tronson encouraged them to work with the BID staff if they needed any help organizing the owners in the area for a meeting.

2. LAPD Camera Monitoring Update: Mariani said that Morrison had contacted Commander Kato to determine the status of the camera monitoring project. The Commander had informed Morrison that in order for the BID to pay for LAPD officers' time, the Hollywood area would have to be designated a special entertainment zone, similar to LA Live. The Commander seemed to think such a designation could be granted, but there was a process it would have to go through first. Morrison asked the Commander if volunteers or reserve officers could staff the cameras, similar to what was described in a recent article about the LAPD's Valley Station in the Daily News. The Commander said he would look into the option and get back to Morrison.

3. Analysis of 10 p.m. Shift Change: Mariani reported that the BID patrol was going into week three of its 13 week 10 p.m. deployment schedule. Mariani shared the new deployment schedules for both BIDs, which depicted the former 6 a.m. car moving up to 8 a.m., in order to allow officers to stay until 10 p.m. This decision to have Hollywood Entertainment BID officers stay until 10 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights came about during the HPOA's January board meeting in which Captain Girmala had asked for the officers to serve in solely an "observe and report" role from 8 p.m. – 10 p.m. on those nights. Morrison, Seyler and Mariani had subsequently met with the Captain and her Lieutenant prior to the start of the experiment. LAPD had assured the staff that their TAB car would handle the BID's normal morning calls, and wake up those individuals in chronic locations. The committee discussed the benefits and drawbacks of the 13-week experiment since concerns have been raised regarding the effectiveness of the "observe and report" strategy. Mariani asked the committee for direction moving forward with the project. Tronson and the committee suggested that the program continue and be evaluated by the HPOA board as well.

4. Stakeholder Security Survey: Mariani distributed a draft version of the survey which the staff is hoping to send out to owners in the area next week. The staff will use the survey results to help further support the BID's continued improvement of its Security program, and also determine which hours stakeholders feel are most important for the BID patrol to be deployed.

5. Formation of 24 Hour Security Company Database: Arthur Stroyman, CHC Board Member, had brought up the idea of putting together a database of buildings with 24 hour security in the BID. The purpose of this database would be to share information amongst the various security firms that are monitoring residential and commercial buildings.

B. Security RFP 2012

1. Contract Negotiation Update: Jeff Briggs is currently reviewing the contract in preparation for each of the next board meetings.

VI. Old Business

A. Homeless Outreach Update:

1. LAHSA 2013 Homeless Count: This year's count was another successful effort. Morrison and Mariani thanked all those in the room who volunteered for the night. Mariani said that final numbers are still being tabulated, but at this point in time it appeared that the overall number of vehicles and encampments

were lower than previous years. However, individuals were on par with 2011 numbers. Mariani is putting together a map which will show a breakdown of census tracts and their difference from 2011 to 2013.

2. Homeless Bill of Rights: The California Downtown Association is closely monitoring the bill. Presently, the bill was returned to its author for revisions. Mariani informed the committee that the HPOA has already taken a position against the bill, and that the CHC will have a formal motion at their March meeting to do the same, citing that the bill will completely hinder the BID's present outreach efforts, which have helped nearly 150 people obtain permanent housing in the last two years. The CHC also plans to cite some of the success stories BID Security has had in their response to homeless client needs.

B. BID Surveillance Cameras

1. Gower/Selma Camera: Mariani introduced to the board Joe D'Amore, HPOA board member. D'Amore is interested in placing a camera on his building at Gower and Selma Avenue. In having Metro Video visit the site they don't think it would be feasible at this time, however D'Amore is open to purchasing a system that may be on site. Mariani said he would connect D'Amore with Metro and thanked him for his interest in trying to expand the LAPD's camera program.

C. Media Outreach: D'Amore asked that the BID take a look at trying to reach the media in order to have them showcase some of the positive stories from not only the BIDs, but also how individuals who are doing crimes in the area are not getting away with it. Mariani said that the BID staff is currently in the process of hiring a PR Consultant and that he would work with Morrison to see if the newly selected individual will include this in their scope of work.

VII. Next Meeting: The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 14, 2013 at 10 a.m. in Suite 802 of the Taft Building (1680 Vine St., Los Angeles, CA. 90028).

VIII. Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Committee Chairs Fred Rosenthal and John Tronson at 11:32 a.m.